

\* 71. *Larus atricilla* *Lin.* LAUGHING GULL.—Abundant. First noted early in April.

\* 72. *Sterna maxima* *Bodd.* ROYAL TERN.—One specimen shot April 14 on Long Sound on the northern coast of Andros. A few more were seen, but the bird was not common.

\* 73. *Sterna fuliginosa* *Gmel.* SOOTY TERN.—Since our return a specimen of this bird has been kindly sent to us by Mr. Alex. Keith of Andros. We saw none of this species while on the island.

74. *Sterna anæthetus* *Scop.* BRIDLED TERN.—Abundant on a small bay near Fresh Creek, where they breed. The people call this and the preceding species 'egg birds,' and during the season collect and eat their eggs. They were not breeding when we were at Fresh Creek early in June, but they were almost ready to breed.

\* 75. *Sterna antillarum*, *Less.* LEAST TERN.—Abundant off Fresh Creek on a small cay near the larger one occupied by the Bridled Tern; neither, however, seemed to trespass on the ground of the other.

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## EIGHTH CONGRESS OF THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION.

THE EIGHTH CONGRESS of the American Ornithologists' Union was held in the lecture hall of the United States National Museum, Washington, D. C., Nov. 18-20, 1890, the President, Dr. J. A. Allen, in the chair. There were present twenty Active Members and eighteen Associate Members.

The Secretary's report gave the membership of the Union at the opening of the present congress as 465, constituted as follows: Active Members, 50; Honorary Members, 21; Corresponding Members, 72; Associate Members, 322;—the total increase for the year being 65.

During the year four Honorary Members and two Associate Members have died, and one Associate Member has resigned. The Honorary Members were Dr. Ladislaus Taczanowski of Warsaw, Russia; John Henry Gurney of Northrepps, England; William Kitchen Parker of London, England; and Dr. F. von Krauss of Stuttgart, Württemberg. The Associates were Henry D. Minot, killed in a railroad accident near New Florence, Penn.; and Gideon Mabbett of Rodney, Miss. The resignation was that of Miss Ellen King.

Two Honorary Members were elected, viz., Graf Hans von

Berlepsch of Münden, Germany, and George N. Lawrence of New York; and one Corresponding Member, Dr. Paul Leverkühn of Munich, Bavaria; and eighty-four new members were added to the list of Associates.

The finances of the Union, as exhibited by the Treasurer's report, are in good condition, there being no outstanding liabilities and a balance in the treasury.

At the call for election of Officers, Dr. J. A. Allen, having served for seven years as President, declined to be a candidate for the office, and Dr. Coues also withdrew his name for re-election as Vice-President. The officers elected were D. G. Elliot, President; Robert Ridgway and William Brewster, Vice-Presidents; John H. Sage, Secretary; William Dutcher, Treasurer. The vacancies in the Council occasioned by the above election and by Mr. Lawrence having been made an Honorary Member, were filled by the selection of Dr. J. A. Allen, Dr. Elliott Coues, and Col. N. S. Goss.

On the call for reports of Standing Committees, Dr. Elliott Coues, chairman of the Committee on Avian Anatomy, read his report, and requested that the Committee be continued, and that Mr. F. A. Lucas be made an additional member of it, which was duly acceded to by the Union.

Dr. C. Hart Merriam, Chairman of the Committee on Migration and Geographical Distribution of North American Birds, stated that the work of the Committee had been transferred to the Department of Agriculture and requested that the Committee be discharged.

Mr. George B. Sennett, Chairman of the Committee on Protection of North American Birds, stated that no additional legislation had been made, but a general feeling was manifested in the different States to protect song birds, and desired to report progress. No formal report was received from the Audubon Monument Committee, on account of the absence of the Chairman, Dr. G. B. Grinnell, and the Committee was continued.

The Amendments to the By-Laws proposed at the session of the seventh congress were then considered; part were adopted, part were rejected, and others amended and referred to the next congress for ratification.\*

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\* See under the department of 'Notes and News' in the present number of 'The Auk.'

Dr. Arthur P. Chadbourne was appointed a delegate to represent the American Ornithologists' Union at the coming International Ornithological Congress to be held at Budapest, in May, 1891.

The remaining time of the session was devoted mainly to the reading of scientific papers, of which the following is a list.

1. The American Ornithologists' Union — A Seven Years' Retrospect. Dr. J. A. Allen.
2. Seed-planting by Birds. Walter B. Barrows.
3. A Study of Bird Waves in the Delaware Valley during the Spring Migration of 1890. Witmer Stone.
4. Our Present Knowledge of the Neotropical Avifauna Frank M. Chapman.
5. The Present Status of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker. E. M. Hiebrouck.
6. Phalaropes at Swampscott, Mass. W. A. Jeffries.
7. Spring Migration of the Red Phalarope. H. G. White.
8. Some Observations on the Breeding of *Dendroica vigorsii* at Raleigh, N. C. C. S. Brimley.
9. The Trans-Appalachian Movement of Birds from the Interior to the South Atlantic States, viewed chiefly from the Standpoint of Chester. S. C. Leverett M. Loomis.
10. A Further Review of the Avian Fauna of Chester County, S. C. Leverett M. Loomis.
11. The Birds of Andros Island, Bahamas. Dr. John I. Northrop.
12. Remarks on a Few Species of Andros Island Birds. Dr. J. A. Allen.
13. Observations upon the Classification of the United States Accipitres, based upon a Study of their Osteology. Dr. R. W. Shufeldt.
14. Some Notes concerning the Evening Grosbeak. Amos W. Butler.
15. Instinct, Intuition and Intelligence. C. F. Amery.
16. The Habits of the American Golden Plover in Massachusetts. Geo. H. Mackay.
17. Some Bird Skeletons from Guadalupe Island. Frederic A. Lucas.
18. On the Tongue of Hummingbirds. Frederic A. Lucas.
19. An Experimental Trial of a New Method for the Study of Bird Migration. H. G. White.
20. Correction to Revised Catalogue of the Birds of Kansas. N. S. Goss.
21. Second Occurrence of the White-faced Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis guarauna*) in Kansas. N. S. Goss.
22. Remarks on the Primary Faunal Divisions of North America. Dr. C. Hart Merriam.
24. Exhibition of a New Owl from Idaho. Dr. C. Hart Merriam.

One of the interesting features of the meeting was the exhibition of pictures, thrown on a screen, of living birds taken in their haunts, and of nests in situ, from photographs made by Mr. Henry M. Spelman of Cambridge, Mass., and explained by Mr. William Brewster, who spoke of the great difficulty of obtaining successful results in this class of work.

Resolutions were adopted extending the thanks of the Union to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution for the use of the lecture hall of the National Museum and for other courtesies tendered to the Union during the session of the Eighth Congress; to the Cosmos Club of Washington for courtesies extended to the visiting members; to the Washington members for their generous hospitalities to the visiting members; and to the retiring President, Dr. Allen, for the efficient and impartial manner in which he had presided over the Union during the seven years since its foundation.

It was voted to hold the next Congress at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, on the third Tuesday in November, 1891.

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### THIRD SUPPLEMENT TO THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION CHECK-LIST OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS.

BY ORDER of the Council of the American Ornithologists' Union the Committee on Publication has prepared the following report on the species, subspecies, and changes of nomenclature proposed during the year ending November, 1890, to be published as the Third Supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union Check-List.

In accordance with the action of the Council, the Committee in cases of the rejection of proposed changes or additions, gives its reasons for considering them inadmissible.

A few cases are necessarily deferred from lack of the requisite data to enable the Committee to reach satisfactory decisions.

The Council having passed a standing order for the preparation